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EDITORIALS BY JUDGE C. C. GOODWIN

The Federal And State Governments

FOR many years there were fierce contentions in our country as to where state sovereignty left off and the federal government should control. This went on until the question on one issue culminated in a mighty war. That war settled one question which was that inasmuch as each original state accepted the provisions which created the Union, no state had a right to break its agreement and destroy the Union.

But there were many questions still left unsettled, and while the old question is one for lawyers and statesmen to wrangle over, there can be no objection to considering the manifest duties that the states and the federal government should always be ready to perform.

In theory the federal government is the owner of all public lands, all navigable streams and all the resources of the lands and streams. But that ownership is but a trust to be executed according to the best interests of the people.

But that could hardly be construed as giving the sovereign owner the right to inhibit and individual from fishing in the river or running a steamboat upon it. And when the federal government through congress prepares an enabling act stating on what terms a territory may become a sovereign state, and finally accepts and acknowledges the sovereignty of that state; under what equities can it continue to encroach upon that state and in effect declare that the people of the state may no longer, on any terms, purchase such property, as the federal government still under the fiction of direct sovereignty, may lay claim to? The Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers run their whole courses through California soil. What would have been thought when California was admitted, had the federal government reserved the right to fish in those rivers or run steamboats upon them under the fiction that the fish and all the profits for running boats upon them belonged to all the people of the United States?

What does the federal government grant when it gives a state sovereignty?

Under what equities can the federal government reserve about every source of wealth in a desert state when it passes its title over to a state?

Had the present claim been the rule from the first, how far this side of the Mississippi would there have been settlements today? Is it not the real function of the federal government, not to place obstructions but to remove obstructions from the paths of the people who support it?

When the country is endangered the sovereignty of the federal government is not questioned. It can command the services and the property of every citizen and this right is not questioned, but outside of that it is merely a servant of the people to do their will.

All the same the states, in their individual status should all the time be prepared to perform their best service to the country. We think they should teach every one of their children capable of bearing arms the elementary duties of a soldier; that should a crisis come they would have full use of their hands and eyes as well as their brains. They should have the bearing of men and respect for the flag.

What is, that they should at all times be ready to perform their best services and that the general government should place no obstacles in their way to dampen their ardor or fetter their efforts.

Hedging a Little

WE are in receipt of a letter on tariff reform that says many congressmen who voted for the Underwood bill are dissatisfied with the result, and are preparing a new bill amending that now famous instrument which Mr. Underwood and President Wilson exultingly proclaimed "meant at last industrial freedom." Just so.

"When the devil was sick—
The devil a saint would be;
When the devil got well—
Devil a saint was he."

There is to be a presidential election next autumn, and, surveying the present situation, we do not wonder that certain gentlemen who voted for the Underwood bill are alarmed. Factories idle, thousands of skilled laborers out of employment, an appalling and growing deficit in the treasury; the manifest fact that except for the demands made by the foreign war, the country would be prostrate under an appalling depression; there are certainly reasons enough why the dullest Democrat who, under the party whip, voted for Mr. Underwood's tariff-smasher, should be apprehensive, if not actually alarmed.

So we read that the administration is seriously considering the advisability of leaving the sugar schedule on the bill just as a revenue raiser, and in other respects changing the present law.

We had supposed that all tariffs were for the purpose of raising revenue, that way being less burdensome upon the people than direct taxation, but the demand has been that the tariff should be a fair one to American enterprise and labor. This is what the Republicans have long clamored for, this is what Mr. Taft urged repeatedly upon congress when he was president, but the Democrats in the senate and house stood like a stone wall against every proposed revision, as they wanted the situation unchanged until it was time to point out to the people in a presidential campaign how the tariff was robbing them.

With the assistance of Colonel Roosevelt they were enabled to have their way. They stood in solid phalanx for the monstrosity which Mr. Underwood prepared and the president favored, but now another campaign is close by, and they seem to be worried. But have they changed their hearts at all? If back in the old place, would they not vote as they did three years ago?

We fear that they would; that whereas they were healthy devils three years ago, their present

apprehension does not come from contrite hearts, but from a disturbed digestion as they contemplate the legitimate results of their work.

Suppose the colonel is once more forced, much against his will of course, to enter the field as a candidate and draws away dupes enough to give Mr. Wilson a second election, how will these solicitous gentlemen feel then? Will they not be declaring that the country has vindicated the president and his policies?

We are afraid that they will, hence their present work is altogether in the wrong direction. They should be sending their teachers around to instruct the faithful to all turn out at the primaries and vote for the colonel because he is the only asset that the Democratic party can rely upon to re-elect their Democratic president.

Progress

ABOUT the most wonderful advances of the past thirty years have been in the medical profession. A specific against diphtheria, syphilis and typhoid, the discovery of the causes of yellow and Chagres fevers, the presence and cure of the hookworm malady, the discovery of the germ which causes what is known as malaria; the new discoveries in and the treatment of tuberculosis and now the scientists in the Rockefeller foundation believe they have mastered cancer at least in its early stages. In this the French, German, English and American scientists have all shared. Leprosy and the sleeping sickness of central Africa have not been mastered and a certain cure for tuberculosis has not yet been made sure, but the work goes on with unabated energy.

Pasteur seems to have originated the new line of investigation; Lister gave it a great acceleration; the devoted band that President McKinley sent to Cuba found the cause of yellow fever and the work as it progresses promises to rid, in the coming near future, the world of the most fearful diseases that have swept the earth for centuries. Then while not yet having the full confidence of the profession the "Twilight Sleep" will eventually win its way and become one of the world's greatest blessings.

We have a presentiment that the world's greatest war now raging will have for one of its results the adoption of an international code which will make such another war in future impossible.

In another direction the experiments are going on which promise to greatly add to the food products of the soil.

The sea has been so far conquered that the perfect ship can outride any storm, only the danger from fire within, the fog, the breaker-beaten coast and collisions remain.

Electrical discoveries have so far progressed that in the coming very few years, the present consumption of fuel will be reduced probably 70 per cent. It would be possible even now for this city to erect a plant and place electricity on the market so cheap that the smoke nuisance in this city would be abated.

We look for a more winsome, deep and chaste literature to appear after the present saddening great war shall have closed.